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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/072,601	02/11/2002	Bruce Williams	061270/0698	1490
22428	7590	03/24/2005	EXAMINER	
			GARRETT, ERIKA P	
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
				3636

DATE MAILED: 03/24/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/072,601	WILLIAMS ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Erika Garrett	3636	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 48-53, 60, 61 and 63 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 48-53, 60, 61 and 63 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some *
 - c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Upon further consideration, the finality of the last office action has been vacated and a new office action on the merits of the claims appears below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) The invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 48-53,60-61 and 63 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ichinokawa (5,265,310). Ichinokawa discloses the use of a base (7); backrest (5a); wherein the base and the backrest are connected by a connection mechanism that includes a plurality of hooks (16a) engaged with a bar (13a); wherein the curved surface of at least one of the hooks opposes the curved surface of at least two other hooks; and wherein all the hooks are attached to one of the base and the backrest, and the bar is attached to the other of the base and backrest, see figure 2. In regards to claim 49, wherein the bar includes a plurality of flat sections, wherein each flat section is positioned to engage with one of the hooks. In regards to claim 50, wherein the flat sections arranged so that when the child seat is in a normal, installed position, each flat section of the bar faces the curved surface of one of the hooks. In regards to claim 51, wherein the backrest and the base are configured to be separated when the backrest is pivoted about 180 degrees from the normal use position. In

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regards to claim 52, wherein the bar is attached to the base. In regards to claim 53, wherein the hooks are connected to the backrest. In regards to claim 60, wherein the base and the backrest cooperated to separate when the backrest is rotated about the connection mechanism relative to the base about 180 degrees from the normal use position. In regards to claim 61, wherein when the backrest is rotated about 180 degrees from the normal use position, each of the hooks engages a respective flat section in the bar such that any engagement between the hooks and the bar is eliminated and such that the backrest and the base may be separated. In regards to claim 63, wherein the hooks are integrally molded to one of the base and the backrest.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 48-53, 60-61 and 63 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Erika Garrett whose telephone number is 703-605-0758 or 571-272-6859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

EG
March 20, 2005



RODNEY B. WHITE
PRIMARY EXAMINER